Disparities in Wages

1664. SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wide disparity in workers' wages exist in similar industries from State to State;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the names of the States where such disparity exists;

(c) what steps are being taken to remove the above disparity;

(d) whether Government propose to set up Wage Boards for each industry;

(e) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) and (b) Instances of disparity in workers' wages existing in similar industries in neighbouring States have come to the notice of Government. Such a disparity in wages in different States is due to local conditions, such as cost of living, stage of economic development and pattern of consumption.

(c) To remove such disparities the State Governments have been advised to share information on this subject and discuss this question at regional level.

(d) to (f) So far, the policy of the Government has not been to set up Wage Boards for every industry in the country. Where there is pressing need and demand for such boards, they have been set up as in the case of Working Journalists and Non-Journalist Newspaper Employees and for the Sugar Industry.

Development of Sea beach of Orissa for Promotion

1665. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have any fresh plan for the development of sea beach of Orissa for promotion of tourism; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Government of India have decided to partially relax the ban relating to construction of beach resorts within 500 meters of the hightide line along with seashore. The relaxation would be applicable to four locations all over India including Puri-Konark in Orissa.

The Central Government is also examining two proposals received from the State Government for central assistance at Konark involving provision of basic amenities for tourists at Chandrabhaga and censtruction of a day centre at Konark at an approximate cost of Rs. 28.15 lakhs. The State Government has been requested to furnish some clarifications before the case can be processed.

Opening of Tourist Offices in Different States

1666. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Department of Tourism has opened its tourist offices in different States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, what is the number of such offices that have been opened in different States and Union Territories so far; and

(c) what are the locations of such tourist offices in Orissa?